

In the Claims:

Claims 3, 4 and 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enabling requirement. For the above stated inference and Page 18, line 16-18 of the Specification, "The agent mixing chamber 324 or 324a is preferably removable and replaceable from the dechlorination device, and may be removed without removing the dechlorination device from the fluid flow path," and below stated reasons in conjunction with the amendment to Claims 1 and 5, the Applicant respectfully asserts that the Examiner's rejection concerning Claims 1 and 5 has been traversed and the Claims are now in a condition for immediate allowance.

Claims 1-11 and 17 were rejected by the Examiner pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Wiedrich et al. For the following reasons, the Applicant respectfully asserts that this 35 U.S.C. §102(b) rejection has been traversed by this preliminary amendment and by argument herein.

With respect to Claim 1, the Examiner has asserted that Wiedrich et al discloses a similar method for dechlorinating a fluid. The incorporation of Claims 2-4 into Claim 1, the above discussion regarding the Specification, and prior the discussion regarding Claims 1-4 in the Amendment Submitted February 8, 2006, the applicant respectfully asserts that Currently Amended Claim 1, is not disclosed by Wiedrich et al.

Applicant cancels claims 2-4.

With respect to Claim 5, the incorporation of Claims 6-8 into Claim 5, the above discussion regarding the Specification, and prior the discussion regarding Claims 5-8 in the Amendment Submitted February 8, 2006, the applicant respectfully asserts that Currently Amended Claim 5, is not disclosed by Wiedrich et al.

Applicant cancels claims 6-8.

Applicant respectfully asserts that dependent Claim 9, is not disclosed by Wiedrich et al for the same reasons as stated above regarding independent Currently Amended Claim 5.

Applicant respectfully asserts that dependent Claim 10 is not disclosed by Wiedrich et al for the same reasons as stated above regarding independent Currently Amended Claim 5.

Applicant respectfully asserts that independent Claim 11, is not disclosed by Wiedrich et al for the same reasons as stated above regarding independent Claim 5.

Applicant respectfully asserts that independent Claim 17, is not disclosed by Wiedrich et al for the same reasons as stated above regarding independent Currently Amended Claim 5 and dependent Claim 11.

Claims 12, 13 and 19 were rejected by the Examiner pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Wiedrich et al in view of Heany. For the following reasons, the Applicant respectfully asserts that this rejection has been traversed by this preliminary amendment and by argument herein.

With respect to claims 12 and 13, the examiner has asserted that the prior art would work the same regardless if flow was caused by gravity or a pump. While that assertion may be true, it does not address the need for a pump to create a more time efficient dechlorination device or a device more efficient at dissolving a dechlorination agent. With the differences between the devices, and the suggested combination of the devices diminish the design efficiency with each.

Hence the Applicant re-asserts his discussion from the previous amendment that the combination of Wiedrich et al in view of Healy would not apply with regard to the present invention.

With respect to Claim 19, applicant relies on the discussion contained herein regarding

Currently Amended Claim 5 and Claims 12 and 13.

Applicant respectfully states that the cited prior art, alone or in combination, does not anticipate or make obvious applicant's claimed invention.

Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

Please amend claims 1, 5, 9 and 10.

Below is a list of all claims with status identifiers.

Claim 1 (Currently amended) A method of dechlorinating fluid, comprising the steps of:

connecting a by-pass integrated dechlorination device to a fluid flow source;

flowing fluid through said dechlorination device along a flow path;

diverting a portion of said fluid through a bypass in the dechlorination device;

controlling the amount of said fluid diverted through said bypass via a valve;

exposing said proportion of said fluid to a dechlorination agent in the bypass, wherein said dechlorination agent is contained in a removable agent mixing chamber that can be removed without removing said dechlorination device from said fluid flow path; and

merging said proportion of said fluid back into said fluid flow path.

Claim 2 (Cancelled)

Claim 3 (Cancelled)

Claim 4 (Cancelled)

Claim 5 (Currently amended) A device for dechlorinating fluid, comprising:

a flow tube;

a bypass in fluid communication with said flow tube, wherein said bypass diverts a proportion of said fluid from said flow tube to said bypass;

a control valve, said control valve regulating the proportion of said fluid entering said bypass;

and

a dechlorination agent reservoir in said bypass, wherein said dechlorination agent reservoir further comprises said agent mixing chamber which is selectively removable from said dechlorination device without removing said dechlorination device from said fluid path.

Claim 6 (Cancelled)

Claim 7. (Cancelled)

Claim 8 (Cancelled)

Claim 9 (Currently amended) The device of Claim [[7]]5, wherein said agent mixing chamber further comprises a dechlorination agent.

Claim 10 (Currently amended) The device of Claim [[6]]5, wherein said control valve controls the amount of said dechlorination agent added to said fluid.

Claim 11 (Original) The device of Claim 5, wherein said by-pass further comprises:
an inlet tube; and
an outlet tube.

Claim 12 (Original) The device of Claim 11, wherein said inlet tube is angled toward the direction of fluid flow through said flow tube.

Claim 13 (Original) The device of Claim 11, wherein said outlet tube is angled away from the direction of fluid flow through said flow tube.

Claim 14 (Cancelled)

Claim 15 (Cancelled)

Claim 16 (Cancelled)

Claim 17 (Original) The device of Claim 11, further comprising:
a first dechlorinating agent connecting tube; and

a second dechlorinating agent connecting tube, wherein said first dechlorinating agent connecting tube connects said inlet tube to said dechlorinating agent reservoir and wherein said second dechlorinating agent connecting tube connects said outlet tube to said dechlorinating agent reservoir.

Claim 18 (Cancelled)

Claim 19 (Original) The device of Claim 17, wherein said first and second dechlorinating agent connecting tubes are made of hard piping and are mounted to said dechlorinating agent reservoir.

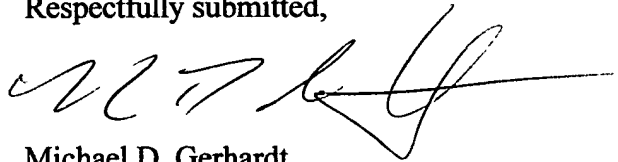
Conclusion

In view of the forgoing amendments and remarks, the Applicant respectfully submits that all the Claims are now in a condition for immediate allowance. An early notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

Any arguments of the Examiner not specifically addressed herein should not be deemed admitted, conceded, waived, nor acquiesced by Applicant. The other prior art of record is noted but not specifically responded to since it is not cited against Applicant's claimed invention.

A postcard is enclosed evidencing receipt of this Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. D. Gerhardt", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Michael D. Gerhardt

Reg. No. 48,397